

Acacia Court

Art in Private Development Fact Sheet



City of Tempe
Cultural Services
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www.tempe.gov/arts



Photo: Craig Smith

Artwork

Serengeti

Development

Acacia Court

Address

950 W. Elliot Road

Artist

Gary Slater

Completion

2000

Material

Copper

Description: "I have named the fence and gates *Serengeti* to give it some reference. The forms would remind one of the tall grasses blowing. An underlying factor in the fence and gates was that by using copper there would be no maintenance, ever."

Funding: This project was funded by the individual developer as a requirement of Tempe's Art in Private Development Ordinance.

Artist biography: Slater is a native of Minnesota and moved to Arizona in 1971. He earned his Master of Fine Art degree at Arizona State University, where he began working on large scale sculpture, directly influenced by the Southwest. Though the largest of his works are favorites because of the visual impact, the majority of his works are in the three- to six-6 foot range. He has vast experience in creating site specific sculptures for clients and collectors, and frequently works with architects, designers and individuals to solve the visual needs of a given space. Slater works with stainless steel, copper bronze and combinations of metals and finishes. He has found, working within a crisp geometric framework, a great variety of sculptural forms to keep his works fresh and stimulating. Slater was recognized as "Master of the Southwest" by *Phoenix Home and Garden* magazine in 2003. Only a select few artists and craftsmen at the top of their profession are awarded this once-a-year title.

Artist's process: Slater's minimalist sculpture and fountains are rendered in steel, copper, stainless steel and bronze. The pieces, inspired by the dramatic landscape of the Southwest, often combine metals, materials and finishes in ways that ingeniously complement the minimalist, fluid forms of each composition.